

## Pawn in the Pollard affair

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## Hussein scouting for Arab support in Mideast strategy

By VERHDA LITANI  
Post Middle East Editor and agencies

King Hussein is seeking Arab backing for his Middle East peace strategy before his forthcoming trips to Europe and the U.S. His brief visit to Syria on Friday, during which he met President Hafez Assad, was intended primarily to enlist Syrian support for the upcoming Jordanian push to convene an international Middle East peace conference.

Syrian support is vital for Hussein since Damascus is widely considered a leader of the hard-line Arab states. Hussein's meetings with Assad were apparently aimed at verifying reports by former U.S. president Jimmy Carter that Assad is ready for direct talks with Israel under the umbrella of an international peace conference.

Washington is also in contact with Syria over a proposed international peace conference, even though there is no U.S. ambassador in Damascus. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy was quoted as saying by a newspaper in the United Arab Emirates yesterday.

The *Al-Khaleej* newspaper quoted Murphy as saying: "We do not live in a world of fantasy... Syria is a factor in any solution to the Middle East equation."

Jordanian Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Foreign Minister Taher Masri will reportedly seek stronger U.S. support for a conference in talks starting tomorrow in Washington.

Jordanian officials say that if they find movement towards the Arab call for a UN-sponsored conference, Hussein might accept an invitation to visit the U.S. later this year.

Both Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak have postponed visits to Washington. Hussein said a visit would be pointless unless

there was a change in U.S. positions. Masri told Cairo's daily *Al-Ahram* that he and Rifai would seek "U.S. acceptance of the conference in principle in accordance with Jordan's point of view."

The U.S. has in the past rejected the forum, but has recently shown willingness to explore possibilities of holding the conference as a prelude for direct peace talks between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

"Jordan has not felt a shift [in the U.S. position]. But there is more flexibility now than before," Masri said.

Jordan would not accept the conference as a prelude for direct talks, as envisaged by Israel and the U.S., Masri said, adding that his country was now concentrating efforts with Washington on the nature of the conference and its role.

Hussein's meeting yesterday in Morocco with King Hassan was likely to provide him with information on Yasser Arafat's latest attitudes towards the February 1985 agreement between Jordan and the PLO on a common negotiating strategy.

According to recent reports, Arafat is about to cancel the agreement in advance of this month's meeting of the Palestine National Council. The expected cancellation is an apparent ploy to appease leftist PLO groups (mainly the DFLP and the PFLP). It would also reflect the current strained relations between Jordan and the PLO.

Hassan has a close relationship with Arafat which has survived the Moroccan monarch's meeting with Israel's then prime minister Peres in Ifrane last year.

Arab League foreign ministers convened in Tunis yesterday to discuss a proposed Middle East peace conference, but were not expected to break new ground.



An ultra-Orthodox demonstrator is driven back from Jerusalem's Hamashbir department store yesterday during a protest against a restaurant which is open on Saturdays. (See story page 2). (Rahamin Israeli)

## Shamir hopes for Peres failure over ME talks

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Shamir expressed the hope last night that Foreign Minister Peres "will not succeed" in his efforts in Europe to promote an international peace conference. Shamir was asked by journalists to react to reports that Peres intended to talk about an international conference during his visits to Spain and Italy.

Peres leaves this morning for Madrid, on the first visit by an Israeli foreign minister to Spain since the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two states in January 1986.

Sources in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem said that the peace process and the idea of an international conference would be high on Peres's agenda in Spain and in Italy.

A source close to Peres responded

to Shamir's remarks by saying: "This is party not state politics and therefore we will not react to it."

Peres will meet with King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez. He will also visit synagogues in Toledo.

Later in the week Peres will attend a meeting of the Socialist International in Rome, which will hold a discussion on the Middle East.

Addressing the Israel Bonds leadership conference in Jerusalem last night, Shamir said that "anyone aiming for true peace and for real progress towards this goal should make it abundantly clear that such a peace conference will take us further away from peace and hurt the chances of achieving it."

## U.S. denies arms sales to Iran

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — The White House yesterday denied a report that the U.S. was continuing to ship arms or weapons-related equipment to Iran. But an administration official said there had been non-weapons sales to Tehran through commercial channels.

NBC television, quoting U.S. and foreign intelligence sources, reported on Friday night that the U.S. had been shipping weapons-related equipment to Iran as recently as last month.

"To the best of our knowledge, there have been no illegal sales from the forbidden munitions list," a White House spokesman said.

The Defense Department also denied any military supplies had been sent to Iran since an administration ban late last year.

An administration official, who asked not to be named, said that there had been commercial sales of products licensed by the Commerce Department, which maintains a list of products that can be exported without harming national security. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

## NY stockbroker Stephen Stern

## Pollard points to man who fingered Sella

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
WASHINGTON. — Convicted spy Jonathan Jay Pollard has accused Stephen Stern, the New York stockbroker who introduced him to Air Force Colonel Aviem Sella, of being the source of the first information obtained by U.S. law-enforcement authorities of Sella's identity.

But in a telephone conversation with *The Jerusalem Post* last month, Stern suggested that Pollard was "probably" responsible for revealing Sella's role in the affair.

Justice Department sources are refusing to say exactly how they learned about Sella. They have confirmed, however, that Pollard did indeed initially try to conceal Sella's identity — as did the main Israeli officials involved in the case when they were first questioned in December 1985 in Israel by visiting U.S. investigators.

Pollard, who is serving a life sentence in Springfield, Missouri, has flatly denied that he revealed Sella's identity to the American investiga-

tors. He steadfastly tried to protect Sella, he says, but at one point, while he was being polygraphed, the Americans suddenly began asking questions about Sella. Pollard reportedly lied to protect Sella, but this was detected by the machine.

Pollard later concluded that Stern was the source of the information about Sella, who was indicted on espionage charges by a grand jury early last month. Since then, Sella resigned his position as commander of the Tel Nof air base, although he remains in the Air Force.

Stern, an old friend of the Pollard family, has acknowledged to U.S. authorities and to a grand jury that he did indeed make the initial introduction between Pollard and Sella. But he has maintained that it was all very innocent.

According to Stern, he had heard Sella lecture at an Israel Bonds meeting in a New York City synagogue in the spring of 1984, when Sella was on leave from the Air Force, studying for a doctorate in computer

(Continued on Back Page)

## Reagan: Affair is 'great blow'

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
WASHINGTON. — President Reagan has described the Jonathan Pollard spy scandal as "a great blow," even though the overall American-Israeli relationship remains strong.

In an interview published on Friday in the *Baltimore Jewish Times*, Reagan was asked whether the relationship had been affected by the Pollard case. "I don't think so," he replied. "Our relationship with Israel is a most powerful one."

But he went on to tell veteran White House reporter Trude Feldman that Israel's image had still suffered. "I think that spying distressed us all because it was a great blow," he said. "There were some very important secrets regarding our capabilities. But I know Israel is conducting its own investigation of the matter, and I think we should await its results before further comment."

On the issue of alleged dual loyalty by American Jews, Reagan said: "I think American Jews are Americans first. I never doubted that for one moment. But obviously, any people in this multi-faceted society of ours often maintain a special kinship with their ancestral roots."

On another subject, Reagan did not rule out Soviet involvement in Arab-Israeli negotiations. But he added that "among other things, they would first have to restore diplomatic relations with Israel."

## 'Settling Soviet Jews will cost NIS 350m.'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The cost of settling some 10,000 Soviet Jewish immigrants will be about NIS 350 million, according to sources in the Absorption Ministry. This amount will cover all the costs of assisting the newcomers in the first five years of their life in Israel.

This estimate will be presented to the cabinet today by Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tsur, who will brief his colleagues on the preparations made by his office and the Jewish Agency for a possible massive influx of Soviet Jews.

Prime Minister Shamir said last night that there may be some significance in the fact that, during March, the Soviets issued 500 exit permits — half of the total that they allowed out during the whole of 1986.

Talking to the Israel Bonds leadership conference in Jerusalem, Sha-

mir said that there was no evidence yet that this development would lead to the beginning of an exodus from the Soviet Union. Therefore, Shamir said, "we must simply persevere in our struggle until the Soviet authorities will enable direct flights to Israel and issue permits to all Jews who want to leave."

Former French prime minister Raymond Barre advised Israel on Friday to react with caution to the developments in the USSR regarding Israel and Jews. Barre told Shamir that the basic attitudes of Mikhail Gorbachev were similar to those of his predecessors, although he was more concerned with Moscow's image in Europe, sources in Shamir's office said.

The sources said that Barre had cautioned Shamir "not to fall into the Russian trap."

## Five Syrian Jews released

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Five Syrian Jews, imprisoned without trial since September 1986, have been released through the intervention of former U.S. president Jimmy Carter. This was announced yesterday by Abraham Foxman, associate national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Foxman said that he had asked Carter to raise the subject of the five detained Jews with the Syrian au-

thorities before his recent Middle East tour, and also to ask about Israeli soldiers missing since the Lebanon war.

Carter met with the soldiers' families here, but could not report that the Syrians had been helpful.

Foxman yesterday expressed his deep appreciation to Carter for his humanitarian efforts. Three of the released Jews are from Damascus and two from Aleppo.

## Hundreds feared dead in Ecuador flood

EL TRUNFO (AFP). — Rescue

workers yesterday pressed their search for bodies and survivors of a devastating flood believed to have claimed hundreds of lives in southern Ecuador on Thursday and Friday.

The Bulu Bulu river, swelled by 40 hours of torrential rain, overflowed its banks Thursday, flooding towns and fields and setting off killer mud-

slides that buried several loaded passenger buses and swept away entire villages.

More than 100 people were trapped in cars and dwellings as some 50 almost simultaneous avalanches covered the Guayaquil-Cuenca highway and another nearby route. Rescue workers said it was unlikely all the bodies would ever be recovered.

## Herzog visit to Bonn ends era of restraints

By WLADIMIR STUMINSKI

Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
BONN. — President Herzog's visit to Germany this week could be said to mark the end of the era in which Israel held back on some of the top-level diplomatic rituals required by official ties between states.

The process of accepting West Germany as a fully fledged partner in this sense has been prolonged in political — if not in historical — terms,

stretching over almost four decades. At the start, no contact with Germany was conceivable. Then, with time, there was an exchange of ambassadors and reciprocal visits by members and heads of government of both states. Last month, the German national football team played its first game against the Israeli team in Israel.

Herzog's visit will therefore not be a departure from previous policy but the logical outcome of an ongoing process. It will mark the end of an era in the sense that after the visit — the first by an Israeli president, following German President Richard von Weizsaecker's visit to Israel in October 1985 — it will be difficult to claim that there are some things Israel simply does not do with respect to Germany.

There are both pragmatic and moral reasons to finalize the estab-

lishment of full fledged official relations with West Germany. After all, on the active political level, relations between the two states have been close for quite a number of years.

As for principles, there are many Germans who genuinely wish to put their country's relations with Israel on a footing of friendship, while remembering the Holocaust as a basic fact of German and Jewish history. (Continued on Back Page)

## Bloody riot mars papal mass in Chile

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP). — Pope John Paul II flew to southern Chile yesterday for visits to provincial cities, leaving behind a capital hit by scattered violence during demonstrations by government opponents emboldened by the pontiff's trip.

The chief of Santiago's central first aid station, Dr. Raul Guzman, said yesterday that 220 people were treated for injuries such as fractures and bruises sustained in a clash with police just 50 metres from a shocked Pope at a mass on Friday night. (See picture — Page 3).

Archbishop Bernardino Pinera, head of Chile's Episcopal Conference, and Santiago Archbishop Juan Francisco Cardenal Fresno condemned the violence and criticized the demonstrators who incited it.

"A few hundred people have tried to impede hundreds of thousands of faithful in the exercise of the first human right: The right to publicly express their faith," they said yesterday in a written statement, calling the violence an offence against the pope.

The pope flew out of Santiago, bound for Punta Arenas, the country's southernmost city on the Magellan Straits. He is to spend 2½

days touring provincial cities. He winds up his six-day trip to Chile tomorrow when he goes to Argentina.

The pontiff's South American tour began Tuesday in Uruguay.

Dr. Guzman said yesterday that eight of those seen at the first aid clinic were sent to an intensive care unit. The Red Cross said earlier that 600 people, mostly victims of tear gas, were seen, and police reported 38 troopers were injured, four seriously, and three civilians hit by gunfire.

Police used guns, tear gas and water cannon against the protesters at the open-air mass attended by about 600,000 people in a park Friday night.

John Paul appeared shocked, pressing his hands to his forehead and gazing out at the crowd. Vatican security guards rushed to the altar, on which "I am life" was written in Spanish.

The incident was the worst since clashes between squatters and police on Thursday, the second day of the pope's Chilean tour, in which the local radio said one man was killed, at least 60 were injured and 150 arrested.

Friday night, the pope met politicians ranging from the ultra-left to the far right, all opposed to Pinochet's rule.

Vatican sources said Pinochet's government, which only recently legalized political parties, had originally opposed the meeting.

After his visit to Punta Arenas, the pope will head north to the cities of Puerto Montt and Concepcion, spending the night in Concepcion.

In the 1960s, the University of Concepcion spawned the ideas that led to the establishment of the militant group now pledged to armed struggle against Pinochet, who survived an assassination attempt last September.

The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR), believed to be the armed wing of the Communist Party, said it had carried out the attack in which five Pinochet bodyguards were killed.

The pope, who has branded the Pinochet government as dictatorial, had a private meeting with the Chilean leader on Thursday.

Police in Buenos Aires yesterday said they would mount a massive security operation for John Paul's visit. (AP, Reuters).

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	4.4.87	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	3	11	20	Clear
BRUSSELS	5	11	20	Clear
BUDAPEST	17	22	29	Clear
CHICAGO	-7	28	40	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-1	10	20	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	-1	10	20	Cloudy
GENEVA	1	14	24	Clear
Helsinki	1	14	24	Clear
HONG KONG	18	22	27	Clear
JERUSALEM	12	24	29	Clear
LONDON	7	15	24	Clear
MADRID	7	15	24	Clear
MONTREAL	2	16	21	Clear
NEW YORK	10	18	24	Clear
OSLO	0	12	21	Clear
PARIS	5	14	24	Clear
RIO DE JANEIRO	19	24	29	Clear
SAO PAULO	22	27	32	Clear
STOCKHOLM	3	17	26	Clear
TOKYO	1	16	21	Clear
TORONTO	2	16	21	Clear
VIENNA	4	12	21	Clear
ZURICH	1	14	24	Clear

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## THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max
Jerusalem	58	7-13	14
Golan	58	7-14	15
Nahariya	—	—	19
Safed	—	—	12
Haifa Port	—	14	19
Tiberias	48	9-22	22
Nazareth	58	9-16	16
Afula	62	9-19	19
Samartha	58	8-15	15
Tel Aviv	58	15-19	19
B-G Airport	61	7-18	19
Jericho	—	11-24	24
Gaza	58	15-18	19
Beersheba	41	9-18	19
Elitz	24	11-24	24

## SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Moshe Schnitzer was re-elected president of the Israel Diamond Exchange last week. This will be his 11th consecutive two-year term in office.

## Three children die as wall collapses

NAZARETH (Itim). — Three local children were killed here on Thursday evening when an old stone wall collapsed on them.  
The children, Ali Jozelyn, 6, Chirya Hursan, 6, and Faiz Hamen Jozelyn, 3, were playing next to the wall in a neighbourhood in the eastern part of town when the disaster occurred. They were crushed instantly.

## Police and suspects clash in ambush

BAT YAM (Itim). — Two detectives and three suspected burglars were wounded Friday night when the suspects were surprised "at work."  
A routine police patrol in the industrial area here noticed suspicious movement after midnight, and after calling in reinforcements set up an ambush.  
The detectives saw a truck break through the gates of a factory, and then saw several men load rolls of fabric onto the vehicle. At this point the police decided to make arrests.  
However, the suspects fled, and when police after firing warning shots caught up with them, violently resisted arrest.  
One suspect struck an officer over the head with a brick, and also wounded another.  
The wounded policemen and suspects were taken for treatment to Wolfson hospital.  
All three suspects are known to the police.

## HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

### Milo proposal on converts

## Likud wants Peretz back in cabinet before Passover

By ASHER WALLFISH  
Post Knesset Correspondent

The Likud is making a strenuous effort to get Shas leader Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz back into the cabinet as minister of the interior before Passover.

Deputy Minister Ronnie Milo of the Likud, who is handling the interior portfolio on behalf of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the acting interior minister, has asked the Knesset Law Committee to meet tomorrow despite the current recess. Milo will ask the committee to gazette regulations whereby the circumstances and nature of a convert's conversion to Judaism abroad would have to be noted in the Population Registry as a guide to marriage registrars.

Peretz resigned his cabinet seat earlier this year rather than accept a High Court ruling to register Reform convert Shoshana Miller of the U.S. as a Jew in her identity card. Until now, marriage registrars have relied on the particulars in the identity card. Milo believes that

Peretz will return to the cabinet once it becomes legally possible to distinguish between Reform conversion and Orthodox conversions on the basis of particulars contained in a person's file at the Population Registry, which is part of the Interior Ministry.

Shinui MK Mordechai Virshubski last night accused the Likud and Shas of trying to sneak the "Who's a Jew" law in by the back door.

(This is the popular term for a proposed amendment to the Law of Return demanded by Shas and other Orthodox parties, whereby conversions would have to be according to Halacha, the Jewish legal code.)

Alignment MK Shevah Weiss last night charged that the blacklists allegedly kept at the Interior Ministry, for the purpose of tracking down persons whose Jewishness is halachically in doubt, will be given legal validity if the Likud-Shas proposal is approved by the Law Committee and becomes the law of the land on being published in *Reshumot*, the official gazette.

## Moshav debt issue unsolved

By AVI TEMKIN  
Post Economic Reporter

The economic cabinet on Friday held another meeting on the moshavim debt crisis and the Ravid committee recommendations on how to solve it, without reaching a clear-cut decision.

The cabinet decided that the committee would complete drafting its report by Thursday, and that it would be tabled at the Knesset Finance Committee for approval.

But the Treasury insisted after the meeting that it could take longer before the recommendations were ready. The Treasury's cautious statement contrasted with the stand of the Agriculture Ministry, which wants a bail-out package for the moshavim as fast as possible.

Even if the package is tabled at the end of the week, as the moshavim and the Agriculture Ministry demand, chances are slim for swift approval. The Likud faction has already indicated that it will not

automatically approve the bail-out scheme. It maintains that aid should be given directly to the settlers, and not to the purchase organizations that are to blame for the current crisis.

According to the plans taking shape in the Ravid committee, there will be a rescheduling of moshavim debts totalling NIS 800 million, including NIS 300m. worth of debts incurred by moshavim in the Golan and the Jordan Valley. Another NIS 150m. worth of debts will be written off, and the Jewish Agency will transfer some NIS 70m. to Golan and Jordan Valley settlers.

Moshav Movement secretary Gedalia Gal yesterday warned that any delay in deciding about debt rescheduling would aggravate the crisis. In a TV interview Gal admitted that in some cases settlers would have to pay large sums to underwrite the debts of the purchase organizations. Settlers in the North will have to pay some NIS 39,000, he said.



Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir addresses an Israel Bonds dinner in Jerusalem last night. On right is Bonds president Yehuda Halevy. (Rahamim Israeli)

## 'A danger to the community'

## JDL member released on bond of \$1m.

By WALTER RUBY  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK. — A member of the Jewish Defence League whom federal authorities have linked to several terrorist incidents was released on \$1 million bond yesterday by a local magistrate who said he believed the suspect was a danger to the community.

In releasing the suspect, Murray Young, 59, of East Meadow, Long Island, the magistrate said he believed Young was "unquestionably engaged in a dangerous course of conduct." However, the magistrate rejected government contentions that Young was likely to flee, stating, "I am...convinced that [Young] has roots in the community and property that will ensure his presence in court."

The magistrate added that the high bond ensured that Young would not attempt to flee the country.

Young was arrested Wednesday after federal agents searched his home, and, according to court papers, found evidence linking the JDL to "recent bombings and other ter-

rorist acts" including an incident at Lincoln Centre last fall. In that incident tear gas was turned on performers and members of the audience during the performance of a Soviet dance troupe.

Among the items seized at Young's home, according to the court papers, were 17 firearms, materials and tools used to make explosives, as well as JDL records and documents. Some of the records were said to concern JDL bombings of organizations affiliated with the Soviet Union.

Young has been charged with possession of a pistol without a serial number, a violation of federal law to which he has pleaded not guilty. A federal prosecutor said that other charges were pending.

Young, according to his attorney, Kenneth Weinstein, is an electrician who has lived in East Meadow for 30 years and has owned his own business for 20 years. Weinstein also said that Young has a distinguished military career, including army service during World War II and the Korean War.

## Mubarak says Israel must talk to PLO

KUWAIT (AFP). — President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt said yesterday that Israel and the PLO would have to negotiate directly if they wanted to settle their differences.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti daily *Al-Rai Al-Am*, the Egyptian leader also called for unity between Arab countries, "because Israel will never hand us the West Bank and Gaza on a silver platter."

Asked about the refusal of some Israeli leaders to negotiate with the PLO even if the organization recognizes Israel's right to exist, Mubarak commented, "The most important is what Peres says. Listen to what he says and don't attach any importance to Shamir's declarations."

"Direct negotiations, whether one likes it or not, are inevitable at some stage," Mubarak said, adding that "carrier pigeons" — foreign intermediaries — would not suffice.

The Egyptian leader called on other Arab countries to "take advantage of the existence of relations between Egypt and Israel to resolve the Palestinian problem."

## China says ME policy unchanged despite talks

PEKING (Reuters). — China announced yesterday that a recent meeting between the Chinese and Israeli representatives at the UN did not indicate a change in China's policy on the Middle East.

The meeting last month was the first openly acknowledged meeting between representatives of the two states.

Vice-Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan told a news conference: "The meeting between the permanent representatives to the United Nations of China and Israel is part of the efforts China has made to express its support for the convocation of an international conference for the settlement of the question of the Middle East."

"It does not mean that China's policy with regard to these questions has been changed."

## Murder suspect held

HAIFA (Itim). — Police on Friday arrested a man suspected of murdering an elderly beggar the previous night.

The suspect's name has been withheld from publication.  
Zoltan Weiss, 70, was found dead in his shack in Kiryat Binyamin after a neighbour alerted police and Magen David Adom. He had apparently been beaten with a blunt instrument. His home was in total disorder, police said.

## Orthodox, secular clash over Sabbath restaurant

By ANDY COURT

Me and Me, the Jerusalem restaurant that opens on the Sabbath, was the scene of another confrontation yesterday between ultra-Orthodox protesters and members of the Citizens Rights Movement.

A 14-year-old ultra-Orthodox youth was arrested, apparently for throwing stones.

Between 50 and 100 people gathered at around 4:30 p.m. near the City Tower building, where the restaurant is located.

The CRM demonstrators carried placards against religious coercion.

When some of the ultra-Orthodox demonstrators began to throw stones, mounted police broke up the demonstration and made the single arrest.

This was the fourth Sabbath in a row that ultra-Orthodox have protested against the restaurant being open, but the first in which the CRM made its presence felt. On Wednesday and Thursday, one of the restaurant's windows were broken, the co-owner of the restaurant, Moshe Asher, said. In one of the incidents, a guard reported to police that he had seen ultra-Orthodox men fleeing the scene.

## Soldiers try to prevent polling

## Gaza workers defy ban on union elections

By ANDY COURT

For The Jerusalem Post  
For the first time since labour activity was effectively banned in Gaza 20 years ago, Gazan commercial and public service workers held union elections yesterday.

The election occurred despite the efforts of the military authorities, who dispatched soldiers to prevent people from entering the union office. The soldiers removed printed ballots and ballot boxes from the office, unionists said.

Tal'at Laffi, one of the union activists elected yesterday, was arrested two days ago and reportedly charged with "incitement."

The commercial and public services workers' union is the second of Gaza's six trade unions to defy military authorities and to vote for new union officials. The carpenters and building workers' union voted for new leaders on February 21, but military authorities have refused to acknowledge them. The four other Gaza trade unions are planning to hold elections in the near future.

The organizers of yesterday's elections say that they are simply trying to breathe new life into dormant institutions in order to teach Gaza's workers about their economic rights. The military government, however, opposes the new elections mainly because they "encourage hostile elements," according to a source in the civil administration.

"There's no union activity in the Western sense in Gaza," he said. "They want to use the unions as they use the universities, as they use the newspapers, to strengthen the in-

frustration of the PLO-affiliated organizations in the area."

But Hussein Ibrahim Abu-Nar, one of those elected yesterday, charged that the military government doesn't want workers to organize because it wants to make sure there's a cheap labour supply for Israeli employers.

"If the workers understand their rights, they'll be able to get more from their employers," he said.

Because some soldiers prevented union members from entering the union office, unionists regrouped at the International Red Cross building in Gaza, where a sit-in was being held in solidarity with hunger-striking Palestinian security prisoners.

About 177 of the union's 259 members voted.

The six Gaza unions were formed under Egyptian rule in 1966, but were closed down from the beginning of the Israeli occupation in 1967 until 1980, according to Marty Rosenbluth, a volunteer for the al-Haq human rights organization (formerly called Law in the Service of Man).

Under pressure from the International Labour Organization, Israeli authorities lifted the ban in 1980, but have still refused to allow the unions to hold new elections or meetings, he said.

The civil administration source, however, said that elections have been held since 1967 and that "in principle" the government has nothing against union elections as long as they follow the Egyptian law that applied before occupation and don't "incite hostile elements."

## Golan unveiling passes quietly

RAMAT HAGOLAN (Itim). — Thousands of Druse yesterday attended the unveiling ceremony of a statue of Sultan al-Atrash in Majdal Shams.

Large police forces were on hand to preserve order, but no disturb-

ances were reported.

Police have in the past prevented the Druse from putting up the statue of their leader, saying that they required a permit from the Interior Ministry's Town Planning Committee. The permit was received recently.

## Dr. HANNAH ENOCH

widow of Dr. Paul Enoch ז"ל  
is no more

The funeral will be held at the old cemetery in Haifa, Hof Hacarmel, at 1 p.m. today.

Yael (Conny) Barak and family  
Anette Enoch and family  
Dr. Dan Enoch and family  
Jurgen Isay and family

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father and grandfather

## BORIS (Boaz) YARON (Josephowitz)

For details of funeral arrangements, please call 04-381804.

Mourning by, his wife,  
Lilo Yaron (née Frankenstein)  
Daughters and sons-in-law,  
Ruth and Jochal Gal  
Naomi and Shlomo Elbaz  
Grandchildren,  
Roi, Orly and Michal  
and the family in Israel and abroad

We at Su-keet  
with great pain and a sense of loss,  
extend condolences to the family  
on the tragic passing of

## KAREN DUBB

She was a light to all who knew her. She had a unique and special significance for all of us, and she will be sorely missed. She leaves a void in all our lives.

Su-keet Ltd.  
Management and Her Co-workers

## U.S. DENIES

(Continued from Page One)

Details of those shipments were not available.

President Reagan banned arms shipments to Tehran after the Iran arms scandal broke last November.

In January, Secretary of State George Shultz told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that there would be "no more transfers of U.S.-origin military equipment to Iran, either directly or through third parties."

The NBC report said the Penta-

gon was coordinating shipments of anti-aircraft command and control equipment used to direct fire of weapons systems. It said some shipments labelled "machine parts" had moved through Ostend, Belgium, on aircraft of Santa Lucia Airways, which it identified as operated by the CIA.

A goal of the operation was to keep open a dialogue with elements of the Iranian regime who had been involved in the earlier U.S. arms sales to Iran, the report said.

## Idi Amin men named in Dora Bloch murder

KAMPALA (Reuters). — Dora Bloch, left behind in Uganda during the 1976 Entebbe raid, was killed by two army officers close to Ugandan dictator Idi Amin, a former minister in Amin's government has said.

Henry Kyemba, who was health minister at the time, said Bloch, 73, was dragged from her bed at Kampala's Mulago hospital by the two, who drove her away and killed her.

Giving evidence to Uganda's Human Rights Commission Friday, Kyemba named the two men as Lt. Col. Frank Minawa, the deputy director of the State Research Bureau (Amin's dreaded secret police), and Capt. Nasur Ondoga the former president's chief of protocol.

Both men fled the country after Amin's overthrow in 1979 and are believed to be living in Sudan.

Bloch was a passenger on an Air France plane hijacked by Palestinian guerrillas in late June 1976. Kyemba said she was transferred to hospital with a piece of meat lodged in her throat.

She was still in hospital when Israeli commandos launched their 90-minute raid on July 3. Kyemba said hospital staff informed him that Bloch had been left behind. Later, Minawa and Ondoga took her away and killed her.

The four-man commission is investigating human rights abuses in Uganda from independence in 1962 to January 1986.

## Panicky flat-dwellers saved in Tel Aviv dawn fire

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A fire broke out on an upper floor of a multi-storey apartment building here at 5 a.m. yesterday, but alert residents and quick action by rescue workers prevented a possible tragedy.

No one was hurt by the blaze, apparently caused by a short circuit in a fuse box, but a Border Policeman and a fireman were slightly injured in the rescue operation in which panicky residents were lowered from their apartment balconies by crane.

Hahagana was noticed by the public and the police, who alerted the fire department and Magen David Adom. Ambulances and fire engines arrived within five minutes.

The building's residents were dressed and out on their balconies with some screaming and others preparing to drop their children to the ground. One resident wanted to jump until firemen persuaded him to wait to be saved. Eight ambulances and 41 emergency mobile units had arrived at the scene, and first-aid was administered to those suffering from

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## HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Sunday, April 5, 1987 The Jerusalem Post Page Three

### Sequel to Paris expulsion of three Russians

## Soviets oust four French diplomats, two businessmen

MOSCOW. — The Soviet Union yesterday ordered two French diplomats and a French businessman working in Moscow to leave the country within seven days, and said another two diplomats and a businessman would be expelled later.

Soviet television said the French Ambassador to Moscow, Yves Pagniez, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry yesterday and told the six were being expelled for "activities incompatible with their official status," a phrase often used to mean spying.

The expulsion order followed an announcement by France on Thursday that three Soviet diplomats in Paris were being ordered to leave in a move linked to the discovery of a spy ring allegedly trying to steal

secrets of the European Arian rocket.

Soviet television said the Ambassador had been informed that Moscow considered the expulsion of the Soviet diplomats as "an overtly unfriendly act...aimed at poisoning the atmosphere of Soviet-French contacts."

The diplomatic row has soured relations between Paris and Moscow at a time when Prime Minister Jacques Chirac is preparing to visit the Soviet Union next month.

Moscow has strongly denied any involvement in the alleged space espionage, and has protested twice to French authorities this week over allegations that Soviet nationals were linked.

One of the protests concerned the

arrest of Lyudmila Varygina, 31, a Soviet citizen married to a Frenchman. The couple was among seven people charged with spying.

Varygina was released from prison and placed under police surveillance in the Normandy city of Rouen on Friday. Her husband, civil servant Pierre Verdier, is still in detention.

Meanwhile, the new U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Jack Matlock, met with Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze yesterday, the official Tass news agency reported.

The brief report said the two officials discussed Soviet-American relations but gave no other details. (Reuter, AP)

## Mubarak: Religion not election issue

CAIRO (Reuter). — President Hosni Mubarak has warned political parties against making religion an issue in tomorrow's parliamentary elections in Egypt, although his own party appears to be chasing the decisive Moslem vote.

"Using religion to win the votes is sensitive and dangerous...playing with the country's stability could lead to destruction," Mubarak told a political rally in the Nile Delta town of Zagazig on Thursday.

There is no difference between a Moslem and a Christian...we are all Egyptians," he added.

More than 10 per cent of Egypt's 51 million people are Coptic Christians in a mainly Sunni Moslem population.

Mubarak's warning came after the results of the six legal political parties contesting 448 elected seats in the 458-member People's Assembly, including Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP), raised religion as an issue.

Meanwhile, police rounded up dozens of members of the Fundamentalist Moslem Brotherhood and arrested them against political activity ahead of the elections, security sources said yesterday.

The sources said several thousand members and sympathizers of the organization, which is banned but tolerated by the government, were detained briefly on public prosecutor's orders and told not to get involved in politics.

The prosecutor ordered the arrest of anyone campaigning in the name of the Moslem Brothers or caught putting up banners on their behalf, the sources added.

Security police freed nine suspected members of a Communist group said to have been planning to disrupt the elections, security sources said yesterday.

The sources said police were still holding one man arrested on Thursday with the other nine, who were released for lack of evidence.

Interior Ministry sources said earlier the men had planned to use the elections to incite unrest and that leaflets urging people to vote for Communist candidates were seized.

### U.S. stays ouster of Estonian war criminal

NEW YORK (Reuter). — A federal appeals court has stayed its order allowing the deportation to the Soviet Union of an Estonian accused of being a concentration camp commandant just as immigration agents were taking him to the airport.

The Second Circuit Court of Appeals stayed its order against Karl Linnaas, 67, until tomorrow afternoon to allow his attorneys time to appeal to the Supreme Court.

Linnaas is accused of being the commandant of a concentration camp in Tartu, Estonia, now part of the Soviet Union, where more than 12,000 Jews and Communists were killed during World War II.

Former U.S. attorney general Ramsey Clarke, who is Linnaas's lawyer, said he plans to ask Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall to stay the order.

### Left-wing alliance censure topples Portuguese gov't

LISBON (Reuter). — Portugal's Socialist Democrats, their 17-month rule ended by a parliamentary censure vote on Friday night, yesterday called for early elections to solve the political crisis.

"The only way out of the crisis is to hold elections as soon as possible," Antonio Capucho, head of the parliamentary group of the Socialist Democratic Party (PSD), said.

The PSD's minority government, the 16th since Portugal's 1974 revolution, was ousted by 134 votes to 108 in a censure motion backed by three left-wing parties — the Socialists, the Democratic Renewal Party (PRD) and the Communists.

Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva, who had accused the opposition of indulging in irresponsible political games, said after the vote that he

could make no comment until he consulted President Mario Soares. Soares, due home today after a 12-day visit to Brazil, must decide whether to try to form a new government from the present left-dominated parliament or call an early election.

Cavaco Silva, resigned to losing the censure vote, said repeatedly that only the nation should choose the new government and his closing speech ended in an electioneering note.

"Don't imagine you can destroy our will...or our spirit. We trust the judgment of the Portuguese," he told parliament.

The opposition, well aware that opinion polls show strong support for Cavaco Silva, is less keen on an election and has already discussed forming a coalition government.



Priests plead with a crowd to stop throwing rocks and bottles during a mass held by Pope John Paul in Santiago on Friday. Police moved in with tear gas and water cannon to quell the disturbance. (Reuter telephoto)

## Jewels net \$50m. for Aids fight

GENEVA (Reuter). — The Duchess of Windsor's fabulous collection of modern jewelry has earned a staggering 75 million Swiss francs (\$50m.) in the jewel sale of the century and the proceeds will help to fight Aids.

The jewelry, a glittering historic moment of the "Romance of the Century" between the twice-divorced American and King Edward VIII, raised 10 times the amount expected by Sotheby's auction house.

Buyers in a frenzied two-day sale that ended here Friday night included actress Elizabeth Taylor. She paid 935,000 Swiss francs (\$625,000)

for a diamond clip designed as the plumes and crown of the Prince of Wales, Edward's title before he became king.

A Royal Naval officer's sword dated 1913 and worn by Edward when he was the Prince of Wales brought 2.2 million Swiss francs (\$1.46m.) from an anonymous bidder.

There were fierce duels between buyers on both sides of the Atlantic as they vied to acquire exquisite masterpieces by Cartier, Van Cleef and Arpels, Dardet et fils and other 20th century master craftsmen.

Bids leapt by 100,000 Swiss francs (\$65,000) a call.

The duchess left her collection to the Pasteur Institute for Medical Research in Paris, which has a prominent role in research to combat the deadly Aids (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) virus.

The institute announced at the sale that it would use money raised by the collection to build and run new laboratories seeking a cure for Aids.

The sale looks set to drive up the value of all high-quality jewelry from the 1940s and 1950s.

"I think certainly that this will put the spotlight on 1940s and 1950s jewelry," said Sotheby's chief auctioneer Nicholas Rayner.

### Beirut U. pleads for release of dying hostage

BEIRUT (Reuter). — Beirut University urged Moslem kidnappers on Friday to send dying academic Alan Steen to hospital after Beirut's *Al-Shira* magazine reported that Steen and his three colleagues might be freed.

The Executive Committee of Beirut University College (BUC) said Steen needed to be in intensive care and appealed for the release of the other three.

It was reacting to a video recording issued by the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine Thursday night in which Steen's fellow hostage Jesse Turner said the 47-year-old communications instructor was in grave danger.

Americans Steen, Turner and Robert Polhill and Indian Mithileshwar Singh, who were seized on January 24, are among 28 foreigners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon.

### Greece eyes ex-king's property after seizing church lands

ATHENS (Reuter). — Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu said yesterday his government, already engaged in a land row with the Greek Orthodox church, plans to take over the property of ex-King Constantine.

Speaking in Kileler, central Greece, at a ceremony marking the anniversary of a peasants' revolt in 1910, he said the government would allow the 46-year-old former monarch, in exile in Britain, to keep the site north of Athens where members of his family are buried.

"The entire property of the former royal family apart from a small piece of land connecting the graves goes to the Greek state," he said.

Government officials estimate the property of the former king to be worth about \$40 million.

He owns a 10,000-acre estate north of Athens and a summer palace on the Island of Corfu, where

Prince Philip, husband of Britain's Queen Elizabeth, was born.

Constantine lost his property after he tried to stage a coup in 1967 against the military government of the time and fled to Britain.

It was restored to him after the dictatorship collapsed in 1974, but he remained in exile. Greece is now a republic headed by a president.

Parliament on Friday approved a government bill providing for the takeover by the state of 325,000 acres of church land.

AIRBUS. — Northwest Airlines of the U.S. has ordered up to 20 of the European Airbus consortium's planned new A340 long-range airliners, with an option on 10 more A330 medium-range jets, in a deal worth more than \$2.5 billion, Airbus announced on Friday.

## FOREIGN BRIEFS

### Smash Irish play heads for Jerusalem

DUBLIN (Reuter). — After breaking all box office records in Dublin, the Gate Theatre's production of Irish playwright Sean O'Casey's masterpiece "Juno and the Paycock" is going on a world tour, a theatre spokesman announced Friday.

First stop for the highly acclaimed production, starring Irish actor Donal McCann, will be the Israel Festival in Jerusalem.

### Yugoslav court denies war criminal's appeal

BELGRADE (Reuter). — The Yugoslav federal court has turned down an appeal to commute the death sentence of World War II Nazi war criminal Andrija Artukovic.

The official Tanjug news agency said Artukovic's lawyers filed for the second time for extraordinary mitigation because of Artukovic's poor health. The first appeal filed last November was also rejected.

### Searchers can't locate missile dropped by jet

TOKYO (AFP). — Some 150 Japanese police, helped by two U.S. Marine Corps helicopters, yesterday searched a snow-covered mountain in western Japan without success for a missile accidentally dropped by a U.S. F-4 Phantom fighter.

The "Sparrow" air-to-air missile, tipped with a non-nuclear warhead, did not explode when it fell on Friday. The fighter was on a training mission.

Marine Corps authorities and Japanese police said they would expand the search today, from Mount Tenguishi, some 50 kilometres north of Hiroshima.

### 65 Mafia members convicted in Sicily

MESSINA (Reuter). — A Sicilian court Friday night convicted 65 Mafia defendants of criminal association, including one gang boss who received a 13-year prison sentence.

The court acquitted 180 other defendants at the end of a trial lasting nearly a year. The 65 convicted received a total of 383 years in jail.

### Sierra Leone V-P under house arrest

FREETOWN (AFP). — Francis Minah, who was sacked on Friday as Sierra Leone's first vice-president, has been placed under house arrest as inquiries continue into last month's abortive coup against President Joseph Momoh, police said here yesterday.

His arrest followed police inquiries into the abortive March 23 coup plot in which the ringleader was identified as assistant police superintendent Mohamed Kaikai.

Charges against the alleged plotters are to be filed this week.

### Vogel stepping into Brandt's shoes

## New chief for fractious German SPD

Ideological divisions between left and right wings are one of them, organizational weakness is another.

Also, even though the SPD came up with a platform last year with which its different camps agreed — including, among others, the decision to abandon nuclear energy within ten years and to say in NATO — it will have to struggle for the support of major groups of voters.

Much of its traditional support from blue-collar workers and intellectuals has ebbed away. Moreover, the party has not succeeded in winning back those voters who drifted to the "Greens" in the recent years.

Many observers think that Vogel can reinvigorate his party with good organization and legwork rather

than visionary ideology. Following the 1983 elections in which the SPD failed to regain the power it had lost in 1982, Vogel's leadership was instrumental in saving the SPD Bundestag faction from becoming demoralized, Vogel's style, while not charismatic, "made people work," as one observer puts it.

Vogel's political career began in 1960 when he was elected the mayor of Munich. At the age of 34 he became the youngest mayor of a European city with more than one million inhabitants and maintained his popularity throughout his tenure which lasted until 1972.

He then served in the federal governments of Willy Brandt as minister of housing and urban development and of Helmut Schmidt as the justice minister.

In this latter job, Vogel had to deal with a double problem: the fight against left-wing terrorism and right-wing demands to take anti-terrorist measures which may have hurt West Germany's democratic and liberal character.

Himself a staunch supporter of the rule of law, Vogel is credited with weathering the storm while keeping Germany liberal.

Within his own party, Vogel was early identified with the moderate —

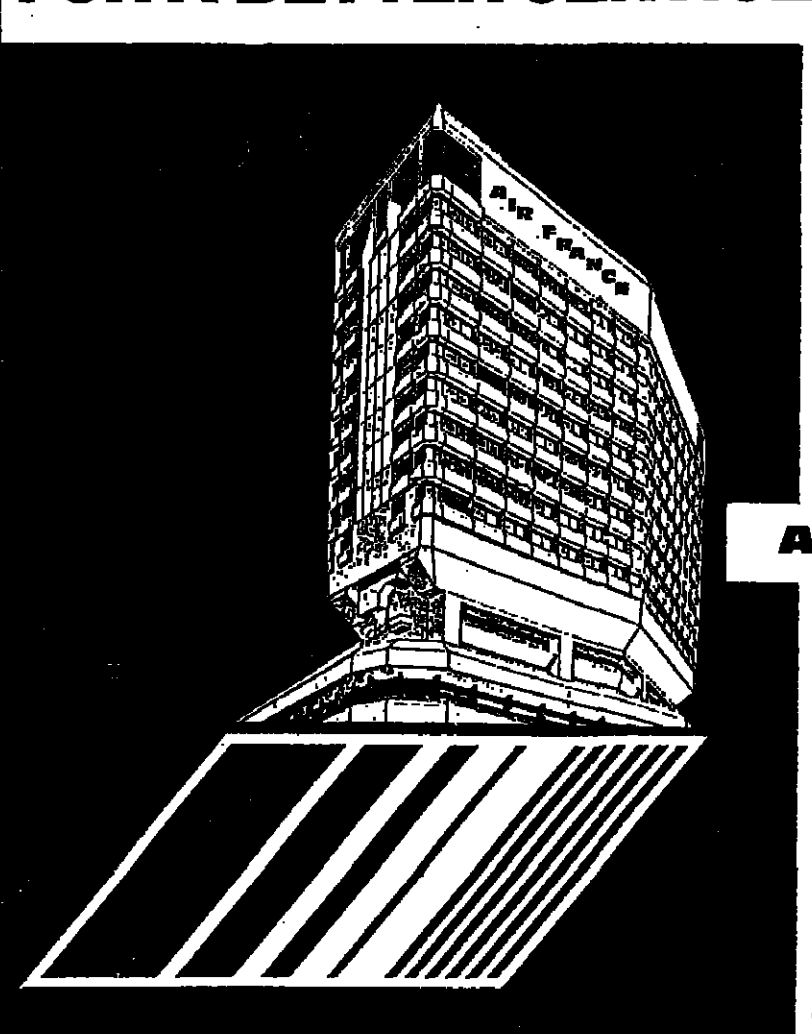
or "right", in the party's parlance — wing. Still, being a disciplined organization man, he is expected to carry out the decisions of the majority.

An Israeli source describes Vogel as sensitive to Israel's interests and knowledgeable on the Middle East.

Last Wednesday Vogel delivered a speech at a Social Democratic celebration of David Ben-Gurion's centenary in Bonn. He strongly stressed his party's commitment to the special link between the destinies of the German and the Jewish peoples. He also pledged that the German Social Democrats would do everything to prevent damage to Jewish-German relations.

It remains to be seen, however, to what degree the party will follow Vogel — on this as well as on the main issues of German politics. The "headmaster," as he is known, is stepping in front of an unruly class.

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דודן ממתקים לשמחה



All he wanted to do was rent out a flat

# The lawyer who became 'pawn' in Pollard affair

By ROBERT ROSENBERG  
Jerusalem Post Reporter  
TEL AVIV. — All Harold Katz wanted was to rent out a small apartment he owned in Washington. Now he's become a pawn between Israel and the U.S., pushed around on a media chessboard in which every square is a test of his loyalties and responsibilities — as an American, as an Israeli, as a lawyer, as a former Defence Ministry employee here, as a businessman here and there.

The Israeli government doesn't want him to go to America — where he is a citizen and a member of the bar — because he might be subpoenaed to appear before a grand jury.

Katz made aliyah in 1972. In 1985, while in Washington, he decided to let the small flat. He had some Israeli tenants lined up.

As he has told friends, while in Washington he bumped into Irit Erb, a Defence Ministry secretary he knew from the 1970s when he was legal counsel to the ministry. She, by coincidence, happened to be a tenant in the same building.

Katz mentioned to her that he needed to get some cheap furniture, because he had promised a semi-furnished apartment to his tenants, and she offered to do him a favour.

Erb said that she knew of another tenant in the building who was selling some furniture. He gave her \$300 cash for the furniture and a key to the apartment, because he was heading back to Israel and wouldn't have time to handle the matter. His lawyer also had a key, and would handle the actual rental arrangement with the tenants who were to arrive a few weeks later. He assumed Erb would hand over the key to the new tenants when they arrived.

That's all Katz says he knew about any connection between Erb and his

apartment, until he got a phone call from the Defence Ministry secretary six months later.

She had just given testimony to a Washington prosecutor who was here gathering evidence about the Pollard affair, as part of a deal in which the Israelis, promising full cooperation, allowed questioning of Israeli principals, in exchange for immunity from prosecution. Erb called Katz to let him know that the prosecutor might call him and to tell him what she had told the American investigator.

Sure enough, he got a call from the prosecutor, and provided him with a sworn affidavit explaining the apartment, the cash, the furniture, and the key.

In that affidavit — given, as the American lawyer in Katz stated on Thursday night "under pain and penalty of perjury" — he denied any knowledge of Pollard, said he had never met Aviem Sella, let alone introduced him to Pollard, and made it clear that he had never handled any money or documents connected with the case.

With that, he figured, the affair as far as he was concerned was over.

Because Katz had been trained to be discreet, none of his many friends in Israel knew about his affidavit to the Americans. Katz is not one to besmirch either the American government or the Israeli government — not even in private. But, say his friends, in his huge repertoire of good jokes, there'll be one from which his audience can guess his political views.

Almost a year later, Aviem Sella had been promoted, and Rafi Eitan had a good job at Israel Chemicals and was threatening to fight any attempt to dislodge him, and the Americans were mad. Full Israeli disclosure and cooperation had, in American eyes, turned into a badly performed farce. Then Sella resigned.

And Katz's name suddenly appeared on the front pages of the Washington Post as a mysterious contact who had introduced Pollard to Sella and handled financial transactions connected with the affair.

According to the Washington Post, quoting sources connected with the investigation, Israel's refusal to allow Katz to testify about the affair — even though he has been granted immunity — was a sure sign that Jerusalem was covering something up. And that something, they implied, was a wider Israeli espionage network in the U.S.

Some Israelis — like Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev — are blaming "professional interests [in the U.S.]...who for reasons of their own want to keep this affair on the front burner." Some Americans are blaming

the Israelis for not being as forthcoming as promised when the Pollard affair broke.

In conversations with his friends, 65-year-old Katz blames nobody. Not even Erb. And he says he has nothing to hide on the subject.

But he does have a problem. As legal counsel to the Defence Ministry between 1972 and 1983, he is very well informed about what he calls "matters of sensitivity."

As a former employee of the ministry — and an Israeli citizen — he signed a legally binding document that forbids him to give information on those matters to anybody unauthorized to receive that information.

Katz is ready to answer any questions the prosecutors would like to ask. The Israelis say that's fine by them — as long as the questions are asked here, even in the U.S. embassy, if that's what the prosecutors want. So far, the prosecutors say no.

Katz first started doing favours for Israel when he became a Mahal officer on board illegal immigration ships to Palestine in the years immediately after World War II.

He got sidetracked into a successful career in the U.S., postponing aliyah for almost 30 years. But he kept on doing favours for Israel.

In those years in the U.S., like many American Zionists, he opened his home — and often his wallet — to many an Israeli, on official or unofficial business. But providing a Washington safe-house for Israeli spies was not the kind of favour he had in mind.

Like many American Zionists, he sometimes feels that he has been used by the Israelis. His Hebrew is good enough to know the word "freier," which is inadequately translated as "sucker," and in very private conversations he might even use the term to make a joke at his own expense.

But Katz is patriotic about both Israel and America, and refuses to discuss those feelings publicly. Even in private he isn't blaming Erb. At most, he may tell long-time friends with much irony, that it was presumptuous of the Israelis to use the apartment without his knowledge.

So now, he's a pawn in a much larger game than renting an apartment in Washington.

He's been "much aggrieved" by the publicity. Maybe he'll sue the Washington Post. Maybe he'll just let it ride, hoping that other events will drive his name off the front pages. As a lawyer he has been consulting other lawyers, to avoid, he says, having a fool for a client.

And even if he won't say so or admit it to himself, whenever he's asked a favour or offered a favour by an Israeli, Harold Katz will probably ask himself deep inside: Whom do you trust?

## Arens: Lavi critics don't know about fighter aircraft

By JONATHAN KARP  
TEL AVIV. — Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens last week criticized opponents of the Lavi for speaking without knowing about fighter aircraft and expressed confidence that the plane would pass the government review due to be completed this month.

Addressing the Friends of the Weizmann Institute, Arens, a professor of aeronautical engineering and former defence minister, rejected the idea that modifying U.S.-built F-15s and F-16s with the Lavi's avionics and electronic systems was

an acceptable alternative to the Lavi itself. As far as the IDF's needs were concerned, Arens said, it would be better for Israel to produce its own multi-purpose fighter which would be cheaper and more readily supplied than planes purchased from abroad.

Noting that the second Lavi prototype made its maiden flight earlier this week, Arens said that the project was progressing well. He added that there was great interest in the Lavi abroad and that he believed several countries would buy the fighter.

## Plane lands because of bomb-hoax

LOD (Itim). — El Al flight 036 from New York to Israel Thursday night returned to Kennedy Airport after a telephone caller warned there was a

bomb on board. But a search of the plane revealed nothing suspicious. The hoax call was taped 40 minutes after the plane took off.



The disclosure that two bear cubs presented by Switzerland to visiting Israeli President Chaim Herzog for the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo are of the 'Syrian brown bear' species has caused some embarrassment among Swiss officials, according to the Swiss press. The fact that the local 'Berne Zeitung' newspaper also discovered that the father bear is named 'Assad' contributed. The bear is the heraldic animal of the canton of Bern. The president and his wife Aura are seen above with one of the cubs. The Jerusalem zoo already has Syrian bears. The mother gave birth last week and is shown below with her cubs.

(Harnik, GPO; Scoop 80)



## U.S. wine firm moves into Israeli market

# Kosher for Pessah, from California

By HAIM SHAPIRO  
Jerusalem Post Reporter  
"This year the four cups of wine at my Seder will be White Zinfandel," says Joseph Zucker. "The guests may be surprised at first, but I'm sure they'll like it."

Zucker hopes that not only his guests will like it, but also enough other Israelis to enable Kedem wines to make a dent in the local market. Zucker represents the U.S. wine firm, and for the holiday season has brought in about 1,500 cases of American wines, ranging from a "naturally sweet" Concord to California Chardonnay.

The Concord is not quite as sweet or syrupy as the kiddush wine which many American Jews grew up with but it has the same distinctive tart taste. The company is even importing natural Concord grape juice, hoping the taste will stir the memories of some immigrants from North America.

The American wine manufacturers started by making kosher Concord wine in New York's Lower East Side. They moved into up-market trade about 10 years ago, when they took 1,000 cases of Bordeaux produced by students at a French yeshiva.

"We figured that even if we didn't sell the wine, we'd be helping out the yeshiva," Zucker says. At the time, their most "adventurous" product was a semi-dry Sauterne, but the Bordeaux was snapped up immediately.

From there, the winery went on to

arranging for production of Soave and Valpolicella in Italy, with workers, all observant Jews, brought in from all over Europe.

In the U.S., Kedem is also selling the Baron Jaquab de Herzog series from California, which includes Chardonnay, White Zinfandel, Chenin Blanc and Cabernet Sauvignon varieties. In New York state, it produces a Johannisberg Riesling as well as the Concord and two semi-sweet wines labelled Matuk Royale blanc and Matuk Royale rouge.

Zucker is also quick to point out that Kedem represents the Montfort, Gamla and Hebron labels in the U.S. In the first quarter of this year, he says, Kedem sold \$500,000 worth of Israeli wines and cookies, and he is looking for other Israeli goods to sell in the U.S.

The Israeli market for the U.S. wines includes customers at better liquor stores, as well as hotels and restaurants.

"In wine you need diversity," he stresses, adding that Kedem is one of the first to bring kosher wine into Israel.

Retail prices for the California wines range from NIS 15 to NIS 25. The New York Concord sells for about NIS 10, and the grape juice for about NIS 6.

For the moment, Zucker says, the free trade agreement between Israel and the U.S. has little effect on duties on wine. But the tariffs will be gradually reduced over the coming years, making the U.S. wines more and more competitive in Israel.

## Emigration and a peace conference

# Tsur says it's foolish to deny linkage in talks with Soviets

By BRADLEY BURSTON  
BEERSHEBA. — Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tsur on Friday called for direct talks with Soviet leaders over participation in an international Middle East peace conference, in order to encourage the Kremlin to follow through with promised concessions on Jewish emigration.

He sharply criticized recent statements by Minister-without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, calling them "Arens' foolish attempts to try to separate the international conference question from that of the Jews."

Tsur declared that any such separation was "only in the imagination of Likud ministers. It may be more comforting to think that such a separation exists, but where the USSR is concerned, it isn't realistic."

"We have consistently stated in the past that our condition for agreeing to talk with the Soviets over the Middle East was a change in their stance over the Jews," Tsur continued. "I call to the government to reverse this position, to turn to the Soviets and say, 'We want change on Jewish issues, and we agree to discuss with you any and all issues, including the international conference. In this critical hour of apparent opportunity, we must become the side that initiates, not the side that waits.'"

Speaking to reporters at a press conference here, Tsur said that at a time when "Mrs. Thatcher talks to the Russians about the Middle East

and Soviet Jewry, Mitterrand talks to the Russians about the Middle East and Soviet Jewry, and Shultz talks to the Russians about the Middle East and Soviet Jewry, only the government of Israel publicly declares that it has a problem with such talks."

In marked contrast to previous waves of immigration, the new arrivals will be housed in rented apartments; and aliya officials have agreed to allow the immigrants to choose their city or area of residence.

Tsur disclosed that the Amidar housing authority has already made 200 apartments in central Israel available for Soviet immigrants. Additional housing is to be offered shortly throughout the country.

Asked if Soviet immigrants would be free to live in the territories, Tsur replied that while immigrants could choose to live wherever they liked, he would prefer to see them settle in the Negev, the Galilee, and in Jerusalem.

"The Negev, in particular, has paid the price for the development of Judea and Samaria, and in an era of limited resources, with \$300 million allocated to the territories just in the last two years, no one can argue that there is 'enough to go around' also for the Negev. But, since Beersheba has one of the nation's largest communities of Soviet immigrants [currently around 24,000], we are hopeful that many new olim will choose to come here."

## Charge is withdrawn against hero of Warsaw Ghetto

By ALEXANDER ZVIELLI  
Special to The Jerusalem Post  
There was a certain tension outside the chambers of Judge Ezra Kama of the Jerusalem Magistrates Court last week as Ukrainian Jews waited to attend the hearing of case no. 2743-86, namely the State of Israel vs. Stefan Grajek.

Grajek, the silver-haired hero of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, was expected to be charged with the destruction of a Mt. Zion memorial for Ukrainians killed by the Nazis during World War II and those who perished during Stalin's regime.

Grajek reportedly destroyed the memorial last September in the firm belief that he was removing a profanity from a Jewish holy place. The memorial was inscribed to 1,500,000 Ukrainian Jews, to 3,000,000 Ukrainians killed by the Nazis, and to the millions who died during the famine of 1932-33. It had been put up on Ukrainian Prisoner of War Day, May 13, 1986, by former Prisoner of War Ya'acov Suslenski and his Association for Jewish-Ukrainian contacts.

Grajek, the venerable chairman of the Israeli Organization of Fighters, Partisans and Nazi camp survivors, witnessed terrible crimes com-

mitted by Ukrainians in the Warsaw Ghetto. Last December, Suslenski and his friends demonstrated on Mt. Zion, at the Chamber of the Holocaust, where their memorial had stood. They have argued that while there were beasts among the Ukrainians, an entire nation should not be labelled bandits and killers. Suslenski's life was saved by two Ukrainians while he was in prison in Valdimir.

Many Ukrainians suffered from the Nazis and helped Jews on various occasions, Suslenski said.

But Rabbi Menahem Fogel, Yad Vashem's director of commemoration and public relations, commented that there was no place for such a memorial anywhere in Israel. "For Judge Kama; however, the Grajek case was just one of 22 cases on his agenda. But as soon as the case came up, he declared that he no longer had any jurisdiction on the matter as the attorney-general had withdrawn his charges. Those who wish to proceed with the case will have to apply either to the attorney-general or the High Court of Justice."

Suslenski and his supporters declared that they wished to press charges.



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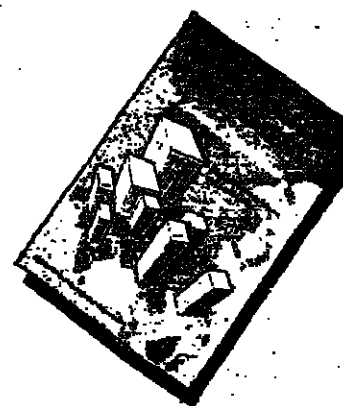
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## Washington can wait

INCREDIBLE, but true, the Likud and Labour, or more specifically, Mr. Shamir and Mr. Peres, six months after their rotation, have not yet been able to agree on who should be named Israel's new ambassador in Washington.

Israel's most important diplomatic posting, now made even more pivotal by the recent series of collisions with official Washington - the Pollard affair, Iranagate and South Africa - has fallen victim to partisan considerations that have no bearing on the national interest. Mr. Peres proposes and Mr. Shamir disposes.

Theoretically, the easy way out of the impasse would be simply to extend the term of the incumbent Ambassador Meir Rosenne. But he does not sit well with the Peres camp, and the foreign minister, who as prime minister suffered what he considered to be a Likud-leaning embassy, now wants his "own" man installed.

Mr. Rosenne has, therefore, been placed in a wholly untenable position. Not only is he a lame-duck envoy when the waters are particularly hot, but he has been subject to erratic instructions extending his duties confusedly by weeks at a time. No ambassador, and certainly not an envoy as heavily scheduled as must be Israel's ambassador in the U.S. capital, can function effectively in such circumstances.

Unfortunately, this cavalier treatment of the envoy in Washington represents a deeper malaise that has set in at the foreign ministry under Mr. Peres. He is a foreign minister who entered office with little appreciation for the cadre of professional diplomats placed at his disposal. Perhaps it is an attitude nourished by his many years at the defence ministry. Whatever its origins, it was quickly felt.

Instead of calling on the diplomatic instrument awaiting him, Mr. Peres surrounded himself with aides that served him as premier, and, of course, complicated matters further by naming two directors general.

The result is that there is a foreign ministry and diplomatic bureaucracy that goes through the motions, but is effectively held at arms length from the minister and his close advisers.

There are many precedents in Israel and elsewhere for personal diplomacy alienated from the executive department designed to serve the policy-maker. The record of those precedents is mixed. But where it worked, it did so only where the policy maker, whether as head of government or foreign minister, was in effective command of the whole gamut of foreign policy.

That is not Mr. Peres's situation. He is foreign minister in a national unity government. His personal diplomacy ends where Mr. Shamir's involvement begins. Ignoring the diplomatic establishment in that situation does more than sap the spirit of the professionals. It breeds disorder, suspicion and conflict in government.

Since Israel's decision-making process is in any case prone to disarray, Mr. Peres's penchant to detour round the diplomats only adds to the jumble.

But as with so many other maladies that afflict the present government, this one too is not given to repair. In the meantime, it seems, Washington can wait.

## POLLARD

(Continued from Page One)

After casually informing Pollard of this "brilliant" Israeli pilot who had told the story of the Israeli air strike on the Iraqi nuclear reactor at Osirak in June 1981, the U.S. naval intelligence analyst is said to have asked Stern to introduce him to Sella. Stern has insisted that he made the introduction, but claims that he was unaware of the subsequent espionage operation.

Stern, who has cooperated with the U.S. investigation, has not been indicted as a suspect in the case even though law-enforcement authorities do not necessarily believe that he was unaware that Pollard had made classified documents available to his Israeli "handlers" during an 18-month period. Pollard was eventually arrested on November 21, 1985, after unsuccessfully attempting to gain admission into the Israeli embassy in Washington.

Some U.S. sources have suggested that Stern may have been granted

immunity from prosecution in exchange for his testimony against Pollard and Sella. Stern has declined to discuss publicly his role in the affair - other than to insist that he did nothing wrong.

Yediot Aharonot reported on Friday that Pollard's unnamed "friend" - a stockbroker who introduced him to Sella - may yet be indicted, but this could not be confirmed in Washington.

Meanwhile, the Washington Post reported on Friday that the U.S. had seized four U.S. bank accounts belonging to Harold Katz, an American lawyer suspected of playing a role in the Pollard affair, in an apparent attempt to force him to testify.

Katz, who has lived in Israel since 1972 and has dual U.S.-Israeli citizenship, has been barred by the Israel Defence Ministry from travelling to Washington to testify before a grand jury. In a statement released last Thursday, Katz denied any wrongdoing, insisting he "had no part in the Pollard operation."

## HERZOG

(Continued from Page One)

history. These Germans will surely be gratified by Herzog's visit, and why shouldn't they be? It is the fruit of their labour, which in some cases has been going on for decades.

It may also be claimed that Israel's leaders are obliged to safeguard the country's political interests, which can be expected to benefit from good relations with Germany. Moreover, after von Weizsaecker's visit to Israel, a visit by an Israeli president to Germany was, for all practical purposes, only to be expected.

But no one is forgetting that this is a very special visit.

For the first time, the German president is to accompany a foreign head of state on all his travels in the country: to the site of the death camp of Bergen-Belsen; to the city of Worms; and to West Berlin. This is certainly an unusual expression of respect.

One may wonder whether Herzog would have come to Germany at all if his host were not Richard von Weizsaecker, who, in addition to being the head of state, is also a leading moral figure. He has consistently called on the Germans to accept their historical responsibility for the Nazi era.

The question is, will Herzog's visit herald a new chapter also in political relations between the two countries. As von Weizsaecker himself has pointed out, presidential visits do not deal with practical details.

Whatever impression Herzog creates in Germany could serve as a basis for future day-to-day politics. But it can be safely said that any change in German-Israeli relations

will depend on Israel rather than on Germany.

There is not much that West Germany can ask from Israel in the concrete political sphere. The Federal Republic does not need Israeli support in the international arena; a small country like Israel is of no economic importance to the German economy; and, as far as Middle East policy is concerned, Germany does not have superpower or ethnic interests in the area. It simply hopes that there will be no major war, which could damage European interests, and it would certainly be happy to see peace in the area. It is perhaps a sad irony of history, and a cold fact of politics, that Israel needs Germany more than vice versa. This is not to say that Herzog's visit should be followed by a vigorous Israeli drive for a new chapter in relations. That judgement entails both pragmatism and principles and should be left to the Israeli public and leadership.

Herzog's visit will make major headlines for a few days in Germany. It is likely to elicit not only sympathy but also, from some quarters, a demand that history be laid to rest. Such demands have been made during the German public debate of recent years, and even people like von Weizsaecker have not been able to win over those who advocate that the Holocaust be forgotten.

Germany is accustomed to prominent, even exotic, visitors from all over the world. But making news does not necessarily mean that there will be an impact on public opinion.

In any case, the emotional impact of Herzog's visit is likely to be felt more in Israel than in Germany.

PROFESSOR Avineri's view of American Jews, labelling them with a *galut* (shuttl) mentality has brought forth criticism both in Israel and in the United States. The Jerusalem Post should be congratulated on bringing the debate into the open. But behind all this stands the still unsolved issue - with us since Ben-Gurion's time of American and Russian Jews settling in Israel. By now we should have learned, if ever we will, that no argument, Zionist appeal, philosophy of the negation of exile, or threats of impending doom will bring Jews to Israel. Again we delude ourselves by pointing disdainfully at the fleshpots of America and sigh with self-righteousness that we can't ever compete materially, to say nothing of our unstable security situation.

Immediately after the Six Day War, Israel became a powerful magnet to Jews all over the world. Thousands of American Jews came to Israel, but alas, as many as 50 percent went "back home" once the euphoria had waned. Hubris and an all-pervading megalomania spoiled our real achievements. There is reason to believe that immigration would have grown and hundreds, perhaps thousands of Jews would have built themselves a second home in Israel. Not only that. Investments, as well as donations, could have flowed into the Israeli economy. But this, too, we spoiled, with our pernicious bureaucracy, for investors and immigrants alike. Releasing a car or a parcel from customs is still the same hell it was thirty years ago. Relate to this immigration from the Soviet Union. Again we seem to

# To boost immigration: Make life a lot easier

Eric Lucas

have learnt nothing. Instead of slogging it out with America, demanding the cancellation of U.S. refugee status for Soviet Jewish immigrants, and pounding the tables at the President's Conference, we should first take a close look at ourselves.

I REMEMBER rather vividly my conversation with a new immigrant from Russia in 1968. I tried to cheer him up. "Here in Israel you can swear at the prime minister and nothing will happen to you." "And what does that help me?" he replied. "When I have to walk the streets of Tel Aviv trying in vain to raise 10 per cent deposit for my flat without which I can't get a mortgage." In the same year Prime Minister Levi Eshkol tried to establish a uniform authority for immigration. This resulted in the establishment of yet another body dealing with immigrants, namely the Ministry of Absorption parallel to the Immigration Department of the Jewish Agency. To this day both exist and often fight in public. And now we see still another attempt to settle the dispute. The Horev Committee was set up with a view to streamlining immigrant procedures, but its findings were never acted upon. So is there an answer to this tale of

woe? Yes, but it is a long stormy passage home.

A bloated bureaucracy, innumerable rules and regulations encourages the citizen to try and cut corners. Cutting corners leads to disrespect for the law, and this has a direct effect on the quality of life in the country. An Israel Television programme put job-seekers in touch with employers. It did some good. But to this day, there is no unified computerized labour exchange dealing with skills, with both Israelis and immigrants. To this day the immigrant has to rely largely on non-governmental agencies to find a job.

I HAD BARELY finished writing these lines, when I saw an article in The Post headed: "Sorry No Jobs." Here are a few lines from a report dated March 24, 1987.

"While activists have stressed the urgency of improving the job situation, especially in the event of an increase in the present Soviet emigration rate... disagreements between the Absorption Ministry and the Jewish Agency Aliya Department... over how to solve these

problems have confounded attempts to counteract employment hardships...

This does not bode well for Russian immigrants settling in Israel. Only a concrete effort through a computerized, efficient labour exchange can begin to tackle this problem.

Early in 1968, when unemployment was rife and a sick joke made the rounds that the last person out of the country should switch off the airport lights, we undertook a small survey. Within one week we found 1,200 job openings in the classified columns of the press... but new immigrants could not read them.

Television is being used to try to minimize the slaughter on our roads. Amongst Jews abroad, Israel is considered to have some of the most reckless drivers in the world. This is part of our quality of life, alas, in the negative.

UNLESS our government wakes up from its complacency and makes a real attempt at improving the quality of life in this country, things will not change except to get worse. The government and Knesset must strengthen the many voluntary efforts being made-up and down the country. It is a sign of the present

malaise that night after night we are bombarded by the prospect of making easy money through the lotteries. This prime viewing time would be better utilized trying to improve the quality of life. We have the talent to do this. We don't need to see clowns jumping up and down pointing the way to easy street by scratching lottery slips.

It is infuriating to think that we are capable of improving the quality of life in this country, yet little is being done about it. If certain cabinet members would shout and cajole less regarding their party positions, and appeal to their followers to make less noise and use less violence, they could achieve a great deal.

Let the Treasury and other ministries cut out the vicious red tape all along the line. Let somebody from these ministries pose as a new immigrant or as a potential investor and try taking his car out of customs, getting a sheaf of licences together, or applying for a mortgage; he will soon find ways to bring this country into the computer age. It is cheaper to pension off unnecessary clerks than to have newcomers leave the country disappointed.

The quality of life in this country must be improved. Only then will we be seen by Jews abroad as an attractive country to live in, a country which, by its quality of life, richly compensates newcomers for the fleshpots they left behind. Besides, the fleshpots in Israel are not that small any longer.

The writer is former chairman of the British Olim Society.

# Without doubt there is no chance of dialogue

Eli Lederhendler

ped being preoccupied with the intricacies of Halacha long enough to even consider the prophets? Yet, Rabbi Carmell seems to think that only the Orthodox have the true Judaism. Like him, I experience a sinking feeling of *deja vu* when I think that "we shall have to go through the whole process yet again."

THE CLAIM that Orthodox Judaism today shows "a vibrant, confident upsurge," deserves closer scrutiny. If there is such an upsurge, perhaps it is not because Orthodox has gotten any better since the 1890s at explaining and coping with the human dilemma, but because a generation of Jews has grown up in the kind of unprecedented security and comfort that does not prompt se-

rious theological doubt. No wonder that the problems of this world that agitate the secular humanists can be presented to Orthodox or Orthodox-aspiring young people as prosaic, impersonal, abstract and of little "ultimate" importance.

Who else would swallow such audacious selectivity on the problem of morality? According to Carmell, "only people who are attuned to the spiritual and who in some sense hear the voice of God" have access to the absolute moral values that Hitler so dramatically denied. Yet, the rest of us know that Torquemada heard the voice of God; that Pius XII did not believe God would object to his

"arrangement" with Hitler; that Khomeini most assuredly hears God twice a day at least; and that our own so-called Jewish "underground" gunned people down and blew off parts of their bodies, secure in the belief that they were doing God's own work.

THE POINT is not that these are all false believers or mistaken individuals. The point is that all transcendent values, even a god, are values and beliefs maintained by finite, imperfect, human beings who selectively define and interpret whatever they understand of "absolute" values. No one can pretend to hold the key to the code of ultimate truth.

Carmell holds up divine "purpose" and cosmic meaning as the

great explanation of our existence of this earth that finally puts secular humanism to rout. He may gloat over physicists who find God in the atom, but of what possible relevance can this be to a liturgy that identifies God as a personal, communicative, just, chastising and saving power? Can anyone still offer "purpose" as a sound idea of Jewish theology in the age of Auschwitz? I am aware that there are some theological positions that Jews find tenable in the post-Holocaust world - God as the great sufferer of exile, God as the voice demanding moral truth but audible only to those who hear it, God as our fellow victim, God as man's challenge, etc. But God as master of the Grand Design? *Ribbo-no shel olam?* Even a secular humanist is revolted by the idea of the God of Israel as the designer of a world that includes Auschwitz.

If Rabbi Carmell preaches to us about the lack of certainty and confidence in our view of the world, he might at least admit that his own verities are as shaky as anyone else's. That would indeed be the way to start asking for a dialogue.

The writer teaches Modern Jewish History at Tel Aviv University.

## READERS' LETTERS

### THE CULT OF AWARENESS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - I was taken back to read of the setting up by the United Kibbutz Movement of a "Department for Drugs, Cults, Alcohol and Hazara Beshuva" ("The Cult of Awareness," March 15). To categorize those who decide to leave the kibbutz for a life of Jewish tradition and observance, together with drug addicts, alcoholics and cultists is as much an insult to traditional Jews as it is to returnees to Judaism.

Frances Yoeli, the department's coordinator and author of the article is concerned about possible yerida by those involved in what she calls "cultic spiritualism." But she expresses no concern for the yerida and intermarriage resulting from the kibbutz programme of promoting young overseas "volunteers" - to work on the kibbutzim - so that kibbutz members can live more comfortably.

Apparently, the yerida of many kibbutznikim to Scandinavia and Germany following intermarriage with Christian kibbutz volunteers is not important enough a reason for a special department. As Ms. Yoeli must surely know, yerida by *hozim beshuva* is virtually non-existent.

A Haifa University survey of 137 kibbutzim published last year in the Kibbutz Arzi weekly *Hahavruva* (see "Marriage with kibbutz volunteers increasing," April 20, 1986) found that apart from the many kibbutznikim who intermarry and leave Israel as a result of the "volunteers" programme sponsored by the kibbutzim, 739 mixed couples, with 1,200 children of the mixed marriages, live on the kibbutzim. Many of these children are receiving a Christian education.

For all of the genuine contributions the kibbutz may have made to our country, kibbutz leaders should face the fact squarely and honestly that many of their youngsters, although born and educated in the "socialist" outlook of the kibbutz and bred from infancy on a diet of pervasive anti-religiousness, yearn for a return to their Jewish roots; to the normative Jewish practice which their grandfathers, who founded the kibbutzim, rejected.

If this comes as a shock to the leaders of the kibbutz it may be understandable. However, treating the phenomenon of return to Juda-

ism as if it was a cult, or as a social aberration in the order of alcoholism or drug addiction is adding insult to injury - and it is certainly not going to solve the real problem the kibbutz has: the alienation of many of its young from the lack of spiritual values they perceive as characterizing the kibbutz.

MICHAEL KANIEL

Jerusalem

Sir, - Ms. Yoeli's article on "cults" casts grave doubts regarding exactly what kind of counselling the United Kibbutz Movement is getting as regards "cults." The attempt made by the writer to bundle all the different groups together is misleading.

The Transcendental Meditation technique has been taught in Israel to over 40,000 people in the last 20 years. These people came from all ways of life, from all parts of society and continue to lead active and fruitful lives in their respective occupations. Not exactly the miserable victims of some terrible fraud, as Ms. Yoeli implies.

As any mediator will tell you, TM is not a hypnotic technique and there is no loss of awareness at any stage.

EYLON MEROZ

Jerusalem

The International Meditation Society of Israel

Sir, - I have, over the years, become somewhat of a specialist in the cult argument. My research has been catholic and first hand, with particular stress on the "New Age" cults (TM, gurus of sorts, Scientology, etc.). Without exception, they were founded by charlatans with two objectives in mind - control over others and money. The second generation leadership is generally naive about the founders' motives and are, therefore, even more dangerous to youth and other "seekers."

I was glad to see that the United Kibbutz Movement takes this threat seriously. Ms. Yoeli's article was a warning to parents and educators. I can only add - take the cults seriously. They prey on the confused and seeking. We, as parents, must assume our responsibility, for if we don't, the cults will only be too happy to do it for us.

GIDI SHALEV

Jerusalem

### DROPOUTS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - As a Soviet emigre who in Vienna, chose the U.S. over Israel (you call me a "dropout"), I resent your prime minister's meddling in my life by pressuring the authorities here to cancel our political refugee status.

I am a jazz musician who after years of oppression has finally succeeded in establishing a band together with a former South African who has also settled in America.

Since my partner used to run a smoked fish shop in his former country, we have named the group "Our Brothers' Kippers" and specialize in Jewish ethnic music. We are both committed Zionists, so, when playing before Jewish audiences, open every performance with *Hatikva*. We frequently entertain Israeli emigrants (*yordim*) and accommodate them with Israeli songs I learned from the refuseniks in the Soviet Union.

I consider myself just as much a Zionist as any other Jew. So, please Mr. Shamir, stop force-feeding us with aliyah. It will only bring on needless animosity.

JOSEF GORATZVETICH

Brighton Beach, N.Y.

### CONVERSION AND COMMITMENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - Proper conversion to Judaism cannot be validated by a simple "show me where to sign" statement. I spent a year and a half studying Judaism with a Conservative rabbi before undergoing a brit, immersion in a mikve, and at my request, a bar mitzva, at the age of thirty-nine.

I came to live a Jewish life in Israel, and married at the age of forty-four, ten years ago, but not before going through an Orthodox conversion. It is true that I had satisfied the religious authorities here, but I did not feel more Jewish afterwards. I had already made my commitment.

GERSHOM SELA

Ein Harod (Me'uhad)

### MERGER OPPOSED BY RESIDENTS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - The publication of Dr. Furst's article on the merger of Tipat halav (milk and child services) with the local Kupat Holim Chalit clinic in the Neveh Ya'acov neighbourhood of Jerusalem (March 25) is yet another measure by vested interests to impose upon an unwilling public an experiment to merge these two public health services.

Neveh Ya'acov's residents' committee and a specially formed emergency committee of Neveh Ya'acov's new *minhaket* (self-government by local residents) have most forcibly expressed their absolute rejection of the planned experiment.

The idea of exposing healthy babies, children and pregnant mothers to various infectious diseases in the shared clinic environment in itself is absurd enough; the additional fact that nearly half the population of Neveh Ya'acov have opted for health services other than Kupat Holim Chalit, thus foregoing the convenience of the local Chalit service in favour of services of other kupot holim outside the neighbourhood, speaks for itself. In contrast is the universal approval of services provided by Tipat Halav.

Local opinion maintains that the Kupat Holim clinic is neither capable of, nor geared to, this additional function and a recent Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Public Health research report predicted serious deterioration in the Tipat Halav service from such a merger.

Jerusalem

ZE'EV DAVIDSON

### UKRAINIAN POGROMS

Jewish victims at 250,000 (The Course of Modern Jewish History, p. 303).

Yet Shimon Redlich describes this forgotten Holocaust as merely, some unspecified "anti-Jewish outbursts in the wake of the Bolshevik revolution," and complains that these "outbursts" continued to reinforce the image of the Ukrainian as murderer and pogromchik. What Redlich fails to understand is that some Ukrainians have such an image, it is because they have earned it.

Jerusalem

RAFAEL MEDOFF

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Uzi Paz

Photographs by Yossi Eshbol



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